State	Mineral	Reserves (m.t.) Estimated
	Sillimanite	0.01
Nagaland	Coal	2.45

(d) No, Sir. GSI has surveyed the State of Manipur as mentioned at (c) above.

Transfer of BALCO to Private Sector

†738. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hand over Bharat Aluminium Company (BALCO) to the private sector;

(b) if so, the conditions laid for its transfer from public sector to private sector;

(c) whether employees of the Company would work as private sector employees;

(d) if so, the conditions laid down therefor; and

(e) if not, where and how the employees of BALCO would be adjusted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) The decision of Government to disinvest 51% of its equity in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) as a first step, is based on the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission and is in line with Government policy on disinvestment. The disinvestment is taking place through global competitive bidding. The terms and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

conditions of transfer of Government equity etc. will be decided at the time of finalisation of deal. The interest of workers will be kept in view at the time of finalisation of transfer of management.

Granite Mines in Orissa

739. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of granite mines in Orissa and the areas where these are located;

(b) whether extraction of granite in these mines is not regulated in a systematic manner;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken for systematic exploration of granite in these mines?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (d) Under section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, granite is a minor mineral for which mineral concessions are granted by the concerned State Governments under the provisions of their respective Minor Mineral Concession Rules. As per information furnished by the State Government of Orissa, 214 mining leases for granite have been granted in Koraput, Gajapati, Puri, Phulbani, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Bolangir, Cuttack, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Sundargarh, Kalahandi, Nuapada, and Ganjam districts of Orissa. The State Government of Orissa have stated that the extraction of granite in these mines is regulated in a systematic manner as per the provisions of Orissa Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1990.

The Government of India have also notified the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 with effect from 1.6.1999 for conservation, systematic and scientific mining of granite resources and to prescribe uniform framework with regard